Monitoring water quality by Kudremukh Company

2505. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kudremukh silt goes into the river Bhadra and is polluting the water with this iron ore;

(b) whether any regular tests on the water are being conducted to ensure the water quality, so that water could remain usable for both the human beings and the animals; and

(c) what monitoring Kudremukh Company does in the upstream and downstream of Bhadra River to ensure the quality of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Steel

2506. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of steel in the Public and Private sectors in the country increased during the last three years;

(b) whether Government are monitoring the Steel Industry in the private sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of steps being taken by Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir. The production of Finished (Carbon and Alloy) Steel and Crude Steel in both the Public and Private Sector has increased as detailed below:

(*in million tonnes*)

Year/Sectors	Crude/Liquid Steel		Finished (Carbon and Alloy) Steel	
	Public	Private	Public	Private
1999-2000	12.85	12.80	8.81	19.65
2000-2001	13.68	13.20	9.84	20.47
2001-2002	14.01	13.95	10.13	21.49

(b) and (c) The Government's monitoring of the performance of the Steel Industry in the Private Sector is restricted to data collection and playing the role of a facilitator in removing any bottlenecks in the growth prospects of the Indian Steel Sector.

(d) The Government has taken several steps to increase the production of steel, such as modernisation and expansion of public sector steel plants and adoption of various policy measures to encourage creation of additional steel production capacity in the private sector. Indian Steel Producers have also been taking steps to meet the domestic requirement of steel including upgradation of technology, improvement in productivity, improvement in quality of products and adoption of an appropriate product-mix to suit the requirements of the consumers.

Value-addition to Durgapur Steel Plant products

2507. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Durgapur Steel Plant is unable to make net profit even after achieving nearly 100 per cent rate of production;

(b) what are the reasons for not breaking even, despite such a high level of production;

(c) what steps are being taken to add value to the products of Durgapur Steel Plant; and

(d) what steps are being taken to improve the finished to semi-finished steel ratio, in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) is yet to achieve 100% capacity utilisation. The net loss (-) and capacity utilisation in terms of Saleable Steel in DSP for the last three years is as under:

Year	Net Loss(-) (Rs./Crs.)	Capacity utilisation (%age of Saleable Steel)
1999-2000	(-) 651	88
2000-2001	(-) 236	94
2001-2002	(-) 262	96